Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)

INL Women's Programs in Afghanistan

Violence Against Women (VAW) Units: VAW Units are specialized Afghan units dedicated to prosecuting crimes against women. INL will support six new provincial VAW Units (in Balkh, Kapisa, Kunduz, Nangarhar, Parwan and Paktia) in 2011-2012, and continue to support the national VAW Unit at the Office of the Attorney General in Kabul. The Kabul VAW Unit is staffed by 18 Afghan prosecutors, and has initiated 586 cases from 22 provinces since opening in 2010, resulting in five convictions so far.

Justice Sector and Corrections System Support: Through INL's Justice Sector and Corrections System Support Programs, Gender Justice Advisors conduct specialized training for legal professionals and Afghan officials on women's rights. In 2010, 284 women participated in justice trainings and events. Corrections advisors have trained 133 female Afghan corrections officers. INL also provides a dedicated mentor to the women's prison in Kabul, where over 130 women are incarcerated.

Shelters for Women and Children: INL is the single largest donor to women's shelters in Afghanistan, funding 6 of 14 total shelters (in Badakhshan, Faryab, Kabul, Kapisa, Kunduz and Saripul). INL also funds two Children's Support Centers (in Balkh and Kunduz) to provide housing, education and essential services to children of incarcerated women, and opened a Halfway House in Kabul. In August 2011, INL contributed $6.3M to the Colombo Plan, an international organization, to establish the Afghan Women's Shelter Fund, which will provide support to shelters and launch emergency initiatives, including a 24-hour national hotline and crisis fund for victims of gender violence. Combined, INL's shelter programs benefit over 1,000 women and children per year.

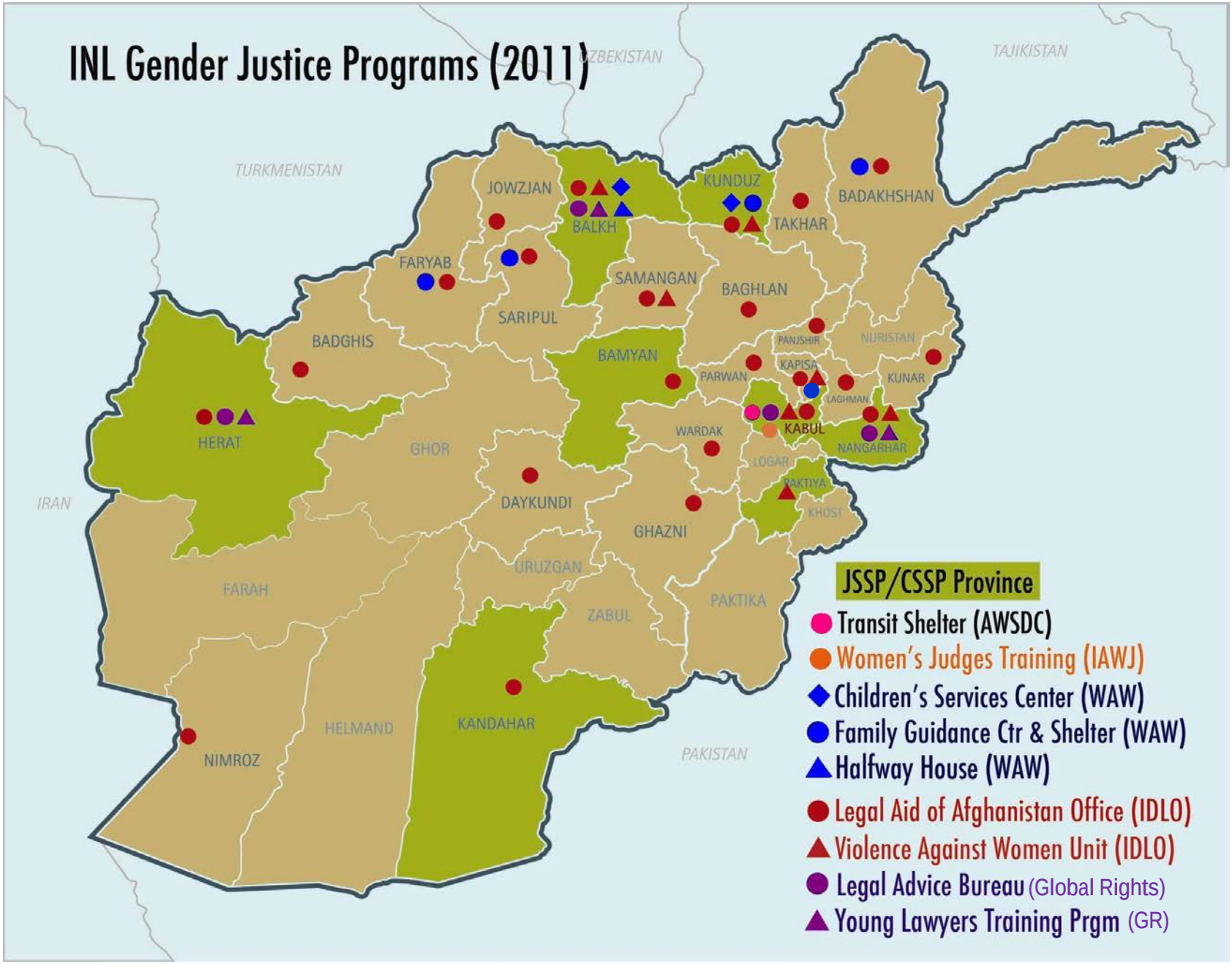
Support to the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MOWA): INL has provided over $250,000 of equipment and infrastructure support to MOWA, and supports a full-time Afghan legal consultant at MOWA's Legal Department, which is responsible for case management and treatment referrals for abused women.

INL has been committed to advancing opportunities for women in Afghanistan since 2004, with a focus on gender justice programs. INL supports a number of initiatives to provide legal training and education, protective services, legal aid, drug treatment and professional development opportunities to benefit women and their children in Afghanistan.

Legal Aid: INL funds Legal Aid Organization of Afghanistan (LAOA) offices in 15 provinces, making LAOA defense attorneys available in 23 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces. In 2010, LAOA provided legal aid to over 2,000 women and juveniles. INL also supports Global Rights' Legal Aid Bureaus at Family Law Courts in four provinces.

Women's Drug Treatment: INL funds six residential drug treatment centers for women and adjacent centers for their children (in Kabul, Balkh, Herat, Badakhshan, Farah and Nangarhar). INL trains Afghan women addiction counselors and is developing a gender-responsive substance abuse treatment curriculum.

Legal Education: INL has sponsored professional exchanges for Afghan women judges since 2004, and provides members of the Afghan Women Judges Association with specialized legal training and networking opportunities. INL also supports legal fellowships, and gender justice and family law curriculum for Afghan Law and *Sharia* students at universities in Herat, Nangarhar and Balkh provinces.


INL Gender Justice Programs (2011)
UZBEKISTAN
TAJIKISTAN
TURKMENISTAN
IRAN
PAKISTAN
JOWZJAN
BALKH
KUNDUZ
BADAKHSHAN
TAKHAR
FARYAB
SAMANGAN
BAGHLAN
SARIPUL
BADGHIS
BAMYAN
PANJSHIR
NURISTAN
PARWAN
KAPISA
KUNAR
LAGHMAN
HERAT
WARDAK
KABUL
NANGARHAR
GHOR
LOGAR
PAKTIYA
DAYKUNDI
KHOST
GHAZNI
URUZGAN
FARAH
PAKTIKA
ZABUL
HELMAND
KANDAHAR
NIMROZ
JSSP/CSSP Province
Transit Shelter (AWSDC)
Women's Judges Training (IAWJ)
Children's Services Center (WAW)
Family Guidance Ctr & Shelter (WAW)
Halfway House (WAW)
Legal Aid of Afghanistan Office (IDLO)
Violence Against Women Unit (IDLO)
Legal Advice Bureau (Global Rights)
Young Lawyers Training Prgm (GR)